

office. But at the same time he was receiving tax-free workers' compensation benefits, he was also operating a snow removal and lawn care business.

In addition, about 100 other claimants per year are prosecuted by the Department of Labor's Office of Inspector General because they received workers' compensation and their retirement pay. These are the so-called "double-dippers."

Mr. President, as part of my effort to strengthen oversight of this program, I have asked the Government Accountability Office, along with Senator COBURN and Senator MCCASKILL, to audit the FECA program and report on the length of time individuals remain on the program, the number of recipients who exceed the standard Federal retirement age, and how the Federal program compares to State workers' compensation best practices. I expect these findings will lead to additional reform proposals as the bill proceeds through the Senate.

I also intend to work with stakeholders to determine if changes in the Federal Employees Retirement System, the FERS system, as opposed to the old Civil Service Retirement System are necessary to make sure that workers' compensation recipients would be treated fairly when they are converted to FERS retirement benefits under this bill.

For example, this may require the Department of Labor to administer the Thrift Savings Plan contributions for recipients or to require Social Security contributions from workers' compensation recipients.

What is clear, however, is that this program is in need of urgent reform. The program is costing too much, injured workers are not being monitored sufficiently and helped to return to productive work, recipients who should be in the retirement system are instead receiving tax-free benefits, and some agencies have high claim rates, suggesting that safety improvements are needed.

For the sake of fairness and fiscal responsibility, we must reform this program now. Not doing so is an affront to the thousands of Federal employees who enter the retirement system. It is a disservice to those Federal and postal employees who truly need workers' compensation benefits, and it is an unnecessary burden on taxpayers.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 36—RAISING AWARENESS AND ENCOURAGING PREVENTION OF STALKING BY DESIGNATING JANUARY 2011 AS "NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH"

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 36

Whereas in a 1-year period, an estimated 3,400,000 people in the United States reported being stalked, and 75 percent of victims report that they were stalked by someone they know;

Whereas 81 percent of women who are stalked by an intimate partner are also physically assaulted by that partner, and 76 percent of women who are killed by an intimate partner were also stalked by that intimate partner;

Whereas 11 percent of victims reported having been stalked for more than 5 years, and 23 percent of victims reported having been stalked almost every day;

Whereas 1 in 4 victims reported that they were aware of email, instant messaging, blogs or bulletin boards, internet sites, or chat rooms being used against them by their stalkers, and 1 in 13 victims reported that stalkers had used electronic devices to monitor them;

Whereas stalking victims are forced to take drastic measures to protect themselves, including changing identity, relocating, changing jobs, and obtaining protection orders;

Whereas 1 in 7 victims has relocated in an effort to escape a stalker;

Whereas approximately 130,000 victims reported having been fired or asked to leave a job because of stalking, and about 1 in 8 employed victims missed work because they feared for their safety or were taking steps to protect themselves, such as seeking a restraining order;

Whereas less than half of victims report stalking to police, and only 7 percent of victims contacted a victim service provider, shelter, or hotline;

Whereas stalking is a crime under Federal law and under the laws of all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the territories of the United States;

Whereas stalking affects victims of every race, age, culture, gender, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability, and economic status;

Whereas national organizations, local victim service organizations, prosecutors' offices, and police departments stand ready to assist stalking victims and are working diligently to develop effective and innovative responses to stalking;

Whereas there is a need to improve the criminal justice system's response to stalking through more aggressive investigation and prosecution;

Whereas there is a need for increased availability of victim services across the country, and such services must include programs tailored to meet the needs of stalking victims; and

Whereas the Senate finds that "National Stalking Awareness Month" provides an opportunity to educate the people of the United States about stalking: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates January 2011 as "National Stalking Awareness Month";

(2) applauds the efforts of the many stalking victim service providers, police, prosecutors, national and community organizations, and private sector supporters for their efforts in promoting awareness about stalking;

(3) encourages policymakers, criminal justice officials, victim service and human service agencies, college campuses and universities, nonprofit organizations, and others to increase awareness of stalking and the availability of services for stalking victims; and

(4) urges national and community organizations, businesses in the private sector, and the media to promote awareness of the crime of stalking through "National Stalking Awareness Month".

SENATE RESOLUTION 37—RECOGNIZING THE GOALS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK AND HONORING THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. VITTER (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. JOHANNIS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 37

Whereas Catholic schools in the United States have received international acclaim for academic excellence while providing students with lessons that extend far beyond the classroom;

Whereas Catholic schools present a broad curriculum that emphasizes the lifelong development of moral, intellectual, physical, and social values in the young people of the United States;

Whereas Catholic schools in the United States today educate 2,119,341 students and maintain a student-to-teacher ratio of 14 to 1;

Whereas the faculty members of Catholic schools teach a highly diverse body of students;

Whereas the graduation rate for all Catholic school students is 99 percent;

Whereas 97 percent of Catholic high school graduates go on to college;

Whereas Catholic schools produce students strongly dedicated to their faith, values, families, and communities by providing an intellectually stimulating environment rich in spiritual character and moral development; and

Whereas in the 1972 pastoral message concerning Catholic education, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops stated, "Education is one of the most important ways by which the Church fulfills its commitment to the dignity of the person and building of community. Community is central to education ministry, both as a necessary condition and an ardently desired goal. The educational efforts of the Church, therefore, must be directed to forming persons-in-community; for the education of the individual Christian is important not only to his solitary destiny, but also the destinies of the many communities in which he lives." Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the goals of Catholic Schools Week, an event cosponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops that recognizes the vital contributions of thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools in the United States; and

(2) commends Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education, and for the vital role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 38—CONGRATULATING BROOKLYN CENTER, MINNESOTA, ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. FRANKEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 38

Whereas February 5, 2011, marks the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Brooklyn Center, Minnesota;